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ASHRAE's New Indoor Air Standards Could Mean Compliance Nightmares for Hospitality Industry

The American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), a private engineering society, has revised its standard for acceptable indoor air quality, Standard 62-1989. Standard 62-1989 has been adopted in 26 state building codes, thereby giving it the force of law.

ASHRAE's revision, referred to as Draft Public Review 62-R (PR 62-R) was made public on August 15, 1996. PR-62-R is complex and fails to take into account several factors unique to the hospitality industry. For example, it calls for costly heating and cooling system designs, as well as for specialized construction requirements in places where smoking is to be permitted. The revision would make obsolete many approaches to heating, ventilation and air-conditioning that are now used widely throughout the hospitality industry.

PR 62-R would also impose more than 300 mandatory provisions on all aspects of building planning, site layout, design, construction, renovation, operation and maintenance. Business owners could be forced to spend tens of thousands of dollars in order to comply with the revised regulations.

Because the revision was largely developed without input from business owners, ASHRAE will accept comments from all affected parties until December 12, 1996.

Business owners can find out more about ASHRAE PR 62-R by calling a Philip Morris-sponsored hotline at 1-800-722-9093. If you are interested in obtaining information specifically targeted to your industry, the hotline operator will connect you with a professional familiar with how PR 62-R will impact your specific business. Please provide the hotline operator with Philip Morris access code 8996A in order to gain access to this complimentary information service. ❑

Upcoming Events

September 24
The Buck Starts Here Seminar
Warwick, Rhode Island
Call the Rhode Island Hospitality Association at (401)-732-4881 to register.

October 14
The Buck Starts Here Seminar
Orlando, Florida
Call the Florida Restaurant Association at 1-800-344-3721.

October 20-23
BPA Western States Super Trade Show
Reno, Nevada
Call (510) 485-1855 for details.

November 5-8
Eastern Bowling Centers Convention and Trade Exhibit
Atlantic City, New Jersey

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/jpwp0003

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